

REMARKS

In this Amendment, original claims 10-20 have been renumbered as claims 9-19. In the Office Action of 9/21/05, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8, and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and claims 7, 9, and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). In this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 11-13 and 15 and added new claims 20-24. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 14, and 16-24 will be pending after entry of this Amendment.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the Office Action of 9/21/05, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8, and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Collins et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,150,279, hereinafter Collins).

The Applicants have amended claim 1 and, as the rejection might be applied to the amended claim, respectfully traverse. Claim 1 as amended recites an assembly for housing a computer system, wherein the assembly comprises:

- a) a housing comprising a plurality of railings;
- b) a plurality of computer circuit boards attached to the railings, wherein the circuit boards are integrated to form the computer system; and,
- c) a power supply coupled to the railings for supplying power to the circuit boards.

Applicants submit that Collins does not disclose, teach, or even suggest each recited feature of claim 1. For example, Collins does not disclose, teach, or even suggest a plurality of computer circuit boards attached to the railings and a power supply coupled to the railings for supplying power to the circuit boards. Collins discloses a computer system package having switches on platters and memory modules coupled between the platters at the core of the package and processor modules about the periphery of the core (see Abstract). In Collins, power busses are run up the center of the core and are utilized as part of the structure to mount and power the switch/memory sandwiches (col. 8, lines 7-10).

The Examiner indicates that the platters in Collins correspond to the railings of claim 1. As known in the art, however, memory modules are not equivalent to circuit boards. As such, Collins does not teach or suggest a power supply coupled to the railings (platters) for supplying power to circuit boards (as required in claim 1), since in Collins, power busses running up the center of the core are utilized to power only the switch/memory sandwiches. As disclosed in Collins, a power supply is applied individually to processor modules via power tabs for providing power to each processor module. The ability to power each processor separately from powering the central memory core is cited as an advantage in Collins. *See* column 6, lines 4-20 of Collins. Therefore, Collins does not teach or suggest a power supply coupled to the railings (platters) for supplying power to circuit boards, as required in claim 1.

As such, Applicants believe claim 1 is in allowable form. Claims 2-6, 8, and 10-16 are dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 9, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins. Claims 9, 18, and 19 are dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins in view of Sickles (U.S. Patent No. 4,600,231, hereinafter Sickles). Claim 7 is dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins in view of Takashima (U.S. Patent No. 5,060,111, hereinafter Takashima). Claim 17 is dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

III. New Claims 20-24

In this Amendment, Applicants have added claims 20-24. Claim 20 is dependent upon claim 1 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

New independent claim 21 recites an assembly for housing a computer system comprising a plurality of computer modules, wherein the assembly comprises:

- a) a housing comprising first and second railings;
- b) the plurality of computer modules connected with the first and second railings, each module comprising four corners and middle regions between each pair of adjacent corners, the module being connected with the first railing at a first corner and with the second railing at a second corner, the first and second corners being a pair of adjacent corners, wherein the module is not connected with the first or second railings at the third or forth corners or at the middle region between the first and second corners; and
- c) a power supply coupled to the first or second railings for supplying power to the plurality of computer modules.

Applicants submit that Collins does not disclose, teach, or even suggest each recited feature of claim 21. For example, Collins does not disclose, teach, or even suggest a module comprising four corners and middle regions between each pair of adjacent corners, the module being connected with the first railing at a first corner and with the second railing at a second corner, the first and second corners being a pair of adjacent corners, wherein the module is not connected with the first or second railings at the third or forth corners or at the middle region between the first and second corners. As shown in Figures 3, 4, and 12, Collins does not teach or suggest modules being connected with platters (railings) in the manner required by claim 21.

As such, Applicants believe claim 21 is in allowable form. Claims 22-24 are dependent upon claim 21 and allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 21.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the rejections in the Office Action of 9/21/05 are fully overcome and that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the case, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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